

April 3, 1980

LB 341

school. as far as the property tax is concerned and the purpose with the minimum levy was to try to narrow the focus down to only address those places where the problem was the greatest. Admittedly the minimum levy under the bill in '89 and '90 will get to \$1.03 but I suggest to you that if \$1.03 is all the levy is they don't have a tremendous problem. Now under what Senator Lamb is suggesting to do is Senator Lamb says that we will only raise that minimum levy if we put in more dollars. Now, remember, you are putting more dollars into an equalization portion hoping to address the serious problem. So if you adopt the Senator Lamb's amendment what you are saying is, in effect, is that we recognize that we are not going to put enough dollars in so we are going to spread it out even further. We are going to leave the pool of those districts who are eligible even larger than it would be otherwise. The end result is going to be that you are not going to get equalization at all to those areas where it probably should be going. I suggest to you that the better way to do it is to put the dollars in as 341 calls for and to leave the minimum levies in so that it will in fact narrow down the areas where it goes. Now you have all had copies of a memo delivered to your boxes indicating to you that there is a printout and the printout is over here under the table or on the table under the balcony and it would indicate, this printout, that the biggest defect on where equalization dollars go comes about as a result of the percentage of the amount of dollars that goes into equalization as opposed to foundation. Changing that percentage, be it 50-50, be it 60-40, be it 70-30, affects the number of districts that get equalization payments but changing the minimum levies really does not with one exception, with one exception. Raising the minimum levies does affect it in some of the Class I districts. Some of the Class I school districts of this state do not get equalization dollars then as a result of the minimum levies. But I again suggest to you, and remember those Class I's right now have a very low minimum levy. If the minimum levy never gets any larger than \$1.03 per hundred dollars, they don't have a serious problem anyhow. We have got school districts in this state now that are crowding \$2.00. We have got some that are a little over \$2.00. I suggest they are the ones that need the assistance. They